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REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF BOOKS.

FR. FRANZ. *Mythologische Studien II.* Der Weihefrühling und das Königsopfer. 8vo, pp. 65. Wien, 1888.

The chief part of this interesting but uncritical essay is devoted to showing that kings were formerly made a sacrifice of, for the good of their people. His taste leads him to think this one of the most sublime aspects of the life of ancient races. The legends of Vikings, Britons, Langobards, *etc.*, are put under contribution, but more especially Greek mythology and history. The Trojan war is only the Trojan festival of sacrifice, recurring within spaces of ten years; and from it the Greek games were later developed. In this and similar conclusions, Dr. Franz seems to mount to such airy heights that the average reason would hardly follow him. In the punishment of the Scythian prince, Skyles, and the assassination of Philip of Macedon, are found examples of this self-sacrifice of kings! The satyrs in the train of Dryas are also explained as youths devoted to death-sacrifice. The diligence and completeness with which these myths are collected is, however, very praiseworthy, and the material gathered into the book is both attractive and entertaining.—HAEBERLIN, in *Woch. f. klass. Philol.*, 1889, No. 19.

ORIENTAL ARCHÆOLOGY.

V. A. SMITH. *The Coinage of the Early or Imperial Gupta Dynasty of Northern India*, 1889.

This work by the compiler of the valuable index to the twenty volumes of *Reports of the Archæological Survey of India* is reprinted from the *Journal* of the Royal Asiatic Society. It may be called the most important contribution to Indian numismatics since Professor Percy Gardner's *British Museum Catalogue of the Coins of the Greek and Scythic Kings of Bactria and India* (1886). In form it is an expansion of a paper on the gold coins of the Guptas which appeared in 1884 in the *Journal* of the Bengal Society. But Mr. Smith has now included the silver and copper coinage; and he has been able to revise his former opinions by an examination of the examples in the British Museum, in the Bodleian, and in Sir Alexander Cunningham's unrivalled private collection. He has also had the advantage of consulting the proof sheets of Mr. Fleet's forthcoming great work on the Gupta inscriptions, which definitely determines the dates of the several reigns. So far as we know, this is the first serious examination that has been made of the early Indian coins in the Bodleian collection, for Mr.

Stanley Lane-Poole's recent catalogue was confined to the Muhammadan coins. The present paper extends to 158 pages, of which a little more than one-half contain the catalogue proper, while the rest deal with such matters as types and devices, legends, find-spots, mints, *etc.* In opposition to the old view, that Kanauj was the Gupta capital, he maintains that all the evidence points to Pataliputra, the modern Patna, while Ajodhya, or Oudh, was probably also a great city with a copper mint. The paper is illustrated with four autotype plates, and one photo-lithographed plate of monogrammatic emblems, the meaning of which remains unknown. Mr. Smith contents himself with stating that these monograms certainly do not indicate mint-cities but probably had some religious or mythological significance. —*Academy*, April 6.

CLASSICAL ARCHÆOLOGY.

Seventh Annual Report of the Managing Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. 1887–88. Cambridge, 1889.

The first part of the volume is occupied with Professor Th. D. Seymour's report for the past year, declaring the work accomplished in Greece and the publications issued, as well as the decision to continue the system of Annual Directors. Then follows Professor Martin L. D'Ooge's report as Director for 1886–87, detailing the occupations, labors, and excursions of the members during his term of office. The greater part, however, consists of Professor A. C. Merriam's report for his year, 1887–88. The seven members of the School devoted themselves to different specialties, and nearly all prepared papers for publication. The excavations were continued at Sikyon and begun at Ikaria. A very thorough monograph of Ikaria is given, including a bibliography of the subject and the different theories regarding its site, a list of Ikarians from literary sources and from inscriptions, and an enumeration of the sources for the story of Ikarios and Eri-gone. The work is done in a scholarly manner and is at the same time interesting reading—a combination not very often to be found.

PAUL ARNDT. *Studien zur Vasenkunde. Leipzig, 1887.*

In view of the present opinion regarding Greek vases—that, excepting very early and very late classes, they were nearly all manufactured at Athens—the writer enlarges upon the contrary opinion held by Professor Brunn, his master, who not only disputes the Attic origin of vases in general but assigns the great bulk of the black-figured and red-figured vases of Italy to the age after Alexander. Mr. Arndt exaggerates his teacher's views in so extreme a manner as to deny the early date of nearly all painted vases; he calls Euphronios, for instance, an Italian potter of the third century B. C. As an exception, he allows the antiquity of the François vase.